

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A data transfer apparatus, comprising:  
an attribute information acquiring unit acquiring attribute information of data managed by an equipment connected to a network;  
a transfer selecting unit selecting a method of data transfer based on the attribute information of data acquired by said attribute information acquiring unit; and  
a data receiving unit receiving data by the method of transfer selected by said transfer selecting unit.
  2. The data transfer apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said data receiving unit receives data by a plurality of physical layers.
  3. The data transfer apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said transfer selecting unit includes a protocol selecting unit selecting a protocol based on the attribute information of data acquired by said attribute information acquiring unit.
  4. The data transfer apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said transfer selecting unit includes a command set selecting unit selecting a command set based on the attribute information of data acquired by said attribute information acquiring unit.
  5. A data transfer apparatus, comprising:  
an attribute information acquiring unit acquiring attribute information of data managed by an equipment connected to a network;  
a transfer selecting unit selecting a method of data transfer based on the attribute information of data acquired by said attribute information acquiring unit; and  
a data transmitting unit transmitting data by the method of transfer selected by said transfer selecting unit.

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6. The data transfer apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said data transmitting unit transmits data by a plurality of physical layers.

7. The data transfer apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said transfer selecting unit includes a protocol selecting unit selecting a protocol based on the attribute information of data acquired by said attribute information acquiring unit.

8. The data transfer apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said transfer selecting unit includes a command set selecting unit selecting a command set based on the attribute information of data acquired by said attribute information acquiring unit.

9. A data transfer apparatus, comprising:

an equipment attribute information acquiring unit acquiring attribute information of an equipment connected to a network;

5 an equipment attribute information selecting unit selecting attribute information of first and second equipments among equipment attribute information acquired by said equipment attribute information acquiring unit;

10 a data attribute information acquiring unit acquiring attribute information of data managed by the first equipment selected by said equipment attribute information selecting unit;

a transfer selecting unit selecting a method of data transfer based on the attribute information of data acquired by said data attribute information acquiring unit and on attribute information of said second equipment; and

15 a data transfer instructing unit instructing data transfer from said first equipment to said second equipment by the transfer method selected by said transfer selecting unit.

10. The data transfer apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said transfer selecting unit selects a protocol based on the attribute information of data acquired by said data attribute information acquiring unit.

11. The data transfer apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said transfer selecting unit selects a command set based on the attribute information of data acquired by said data attribute information acquiring unit.

12. A method data transfer, comprising the steps of:  
acquiring attribute information of data managed by an equipment connected to a network;  
selecting a method of data transfer based on said acquired attribute information of data; and  
receiving data by said selected method of transfer.

13. A method of data transfer, comprising the steps of:  
acquiring attribute information of data managed by an equipment connected to a network;  
selecting a method of data transfer based on said acquired attribute information of data; and  
transmitting data by said selected method of transfer.

14. A method of data transfer, comprising the steps of:  
acquiring attribute information of an equipment connected to a network;  
selecting attribute information of first and second equipments from said attribute information of equipments;  
acquiring attribute information of data managed by said selected first equipment;  
selecting a method of data transfer based on said acquired attribute information of data and said attribute information of said second equipment; and  
instructing data transfer from said first equipment to said second equipment by said selected method of transfer.

15. A computer readable recording medium recording a program

for a computer to execute a method of data transfer, wherein said method includes the steps of:

- 5        acquiring attribute information of data managed by an equipment  
connected to a network,  
selecting a method of data transfer based on said acquired attribute  
information of data, and  
receiving data by said selected method of transfer.

16. A computer readable recording medium recording a program  
for a computer to execute a method of data transfer, wherein said method  
includes the steps of

- 5        acquiring attribute information of data managed by an equipment  
connected to a network,  
selecting a method of data transfer based on said acquired attribute  
information of data, and  
transmitting data by said selected method of transfer.

17. A computer readable recording medium recording a program  
for a computer to execute a method of data transfer, wherein said method  
includes the steps of

- 5        acquiring attribute information of an equipment connected to a  
network,  
selecting attribute information of first and second equipments from  
said acquired attribute information of equipments,  
acquiring attribute information of data managed by said selected  
first equipment,  
10       selecting a method of data transfer based on said acquired attribute  
information of data and said attribute information of said second equipment,  
and  
instructing data transfer from said first equipment to said second  
equipment by said selected method of transfer.

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